LITTLETON, JOYCE, UGHETTA, PARK & KELLY LLP Wendy B. Shepps (WS-1207)

Attorneys for Defendant Cohen & Slamowitz, LLP

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New York, New York 10006

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	V
JAMES PUCKETT,	X :
Plaintiff,	: :
- against -	: : 11-CV-8321
COHEN & SLAMOWITZ, LLP	: : <u>ANSWER</u>
Defendant.	: : •
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Defendant, COHEN & SLAMOWITZ, LLP (hereinafter "Defendant or "COHEN & SLAMOWITZ"), by its attorneys, LITTLETON, JOYCE, UGHETTA, PARK & KELLY LLP hereby responds, upon information and belief, to the Plaintiff's Complaint, as follows:

**FIRST:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "1" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**SECOND:** Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "2" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**THIRD:** Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "3" of Plaintiff's Complaint and in addition, refers all questions of law to the trial court for judicial determination.

**FOURTH:** Admits the truth of the allegations contained within paragraph "4" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**FIFTH:** Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "5" of Plaintiff's Complaint and in addition, refers all questions of law to the trial court for judicial determination.

**SIXTH:** Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "6" of Plaintiff's Complaint and in addition, refers all questions of law to the trial court for judicial determination.

**SEVENTH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "7" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**EIGHTH:** Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "8" of Plaintiff's Complaint and in addition, refers all questions of law to the trial court for judicial determination.

#### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

**NINTH:** Defendant repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every denial and denial asserted upon information and belief in response to paragraphs "1" through "9" of the Plaintiff's Complaint as if the same were repeated verbatim at length herein.

**TENTH:** Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "10" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**ELEVENTH:** Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "11" of Plaintiff's Complaint and in addition, refers all questions of law to the trial court for judicial determination.

**TWELFTH:** Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "12" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**THIRTEENTH:** Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief

as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "13" of Plaintiff's Complaint, and in addition, state that the contents of the documents referred to therein speak for themselves.

**FOURTEENTH:** Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "14" of Plaintiff's Complaint, and in addition, state that the contents of the documents referred to therein speak for themselves.

**FIFTEENTH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "15" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

SIXTEENTH: Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "16" of Plaintiff's Complaint, and in addition, state that the contents of the documents referred to therein speak for themselves.

**SEVENTEENTH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "17" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**EIGHTEENTH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "18" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**NINETEENTH:** Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "19" of Plaintiff's Complaint, and in addition, state that the contents of the documents referred to therein speak for themselves.

**TWENTIETH:** Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "20" of Plaintiff's

Complaint, and in addition, state that the contents of the documents referred to therein speak for themselves.

**TWENTY-FIRST:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "21" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**TWENTY- SECOND:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "22" of Plaintiff's Complaint

**TWENTY-THIRD:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "23" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**TWENTY-FOURTH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "24" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**TWENTY-FIFTH:** Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "25" of Plaintiff's Complaint, and in addition, state that the contents of the documents referred to therein speak for themselves.

**TWENTY-SIXTH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "26" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**TWENTY-SEVENTH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "27" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**TWENTY-EIGHTH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "28" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**TWENTY-NINTH:** Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "29" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**THIRTIETH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "30" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**THIRTY-FIRST:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "31" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**THIRTY-SECOND:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "32" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**THIRTY- THIRD:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "33" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**THIRTY-FOURTH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "34" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**THIRTY-FIFTH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "35" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**THIRTY-SIXTH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "36" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**THIRTY-SEVENTH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "37" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**THIRTY-EIGHTH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "38" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

**THIRTY-NINTH:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "39" of Plaintiff's Complaint.

#### **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

**FORTIETH:** Answering Defendant repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every denial and denial asserted upon information and belief in response to paragraphs "1"

through "40" of the Plaintiff's Complaint as if the same were repeated verbatim at length herein.

**FORTY-FIRST:** Denies the truth of each and every allegation contained within paragraph "41" of Plaintiff's Complaint, including subparagraphs.

## AS AND FOR ANSWERING DEFENDANT'S FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's Complaint fails to state a valid cause of action upon which relief may be granted.

## AS AND FOR ANSWERING DEFENDANT'S SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Plaintiff's Complaint is not supported by documentary evidence.

# AS AND FOR ANSWERING DEFENDANT'S THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Upon information and belief, the causes of action asserted in the Plaintiff's Complaint against the Answering Defendant are barred in whole or in part by the doctrine of estoppel.

# AS AND FOR ANSWERING DEFENDANT'S FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

If Plaintiff has incurred any damages herein, which claim is expressly denied, such damages are the result of his own culpable conduct.

# AS AND FOR ANSWERING DEFENDANT'S FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendant did not violate, in whole or in part, any provision of the FDCPA.

## AS AND FOR ANSWERING DEFENDANT'S SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

To the extent a violation of any provision of 15 USC §1692 occurred, which violation is expressly denied, such violation was not intentional and resulted from a *bona fide* error notwithstanding reasonable procedures adopted to avoid any such error.

#### AS AND FOR ANSWERING DEFENDANT'S SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

To the extent a violation of any provision of 15 USC §1692 occurred, which violation is expressly denied, such violation was the result of acts of non-agents, or agents acting outside the scope of their authority.

# AS AND FOR ANSWERING DEFENDANT'S EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The instant action is barred by the expiration of the applicable statute of limitations.

# AS AND FOR ANSWERING DEFENDANT'S NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff is precluded by the doctrine of waiver and estoppel.

### AS AND FOR ANSWERING DEFENDANT'S <u>TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE</u>

Plaintiff has failed to mitigate his damages.

WHEREFORE, Answering Defendant LAW OFFICES OF COHEN & SLAMOWITZ, LLP, respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment herein dismissing Plaintiff's claims against them in their entirety, together with such other, further and different relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York January 5, 2012

Respectfully Yours,

LITTLETON, JOYCE, UGHETTA, PARK & KELLY LLP

By:\_\_\_\_

Wendy B. Shepps (WS1207) Attorneys for Defendant COHEN & SLAMOWITZ, LLP 39 Broadway, 34<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, New York 10006 (212) 404-5777

File No.: 07883.00069

TO: Law Offices of Allison Polesky, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff 511 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 712 New York, New York 10011

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Wendy B. Shepps, hereby certify that on January 5, 2012, I electronically filed the foregoing Answer with the Clerk of the District Court using its CM/ECF system which would then electronically notify Allison Polesky, counsel for the Plaintiff.

Wendy B. Shepps (WS 1207)